

Appl. No. 10/003,298
Response date: October 12, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

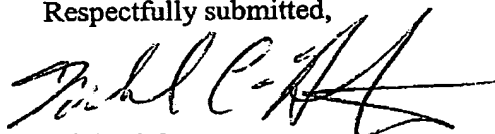
The Action states that claims 1-24 (Invention I) are drawn to a repeater for use in an undersea optical communication system, classified in class 359, subclass 333; claims 25-36 (Invention II) are drawn to an optical component tray, classified in class 385, subclass 135. The Action requires the election of Invention I or Invention II for examination.

Applicants elect Invention II (claims 25-36). Applicants have also amended claims 1-24 to depend from claim 25, support for which can be found through the specification, e.g., paragraphs 79-85.

If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this Amendment or to the subject application in general, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, necessitated by this amendment and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500477.

Respectfully submitted,



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